

PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT LICENSING GUIDE

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

(Listed below are the minimum requirements needed to obtain a physical therapist assistant license.)

APPLICATION AND FEES

- ☐ Online Application for a Physical Therapist Assistant License - Complete all fields, answer all questions, and upload any supporting documentation.
- ☐ Online application must be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus.
- ☐ Application Fee + 2 year license fee: (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, or Discover credit or debit card.):
- ☐ Physical Therapist Assistant By Exam or Endorsement \$118.95
- ☐ Physical Therapist Assistant Relicensure \$138.95

THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL APPLICANTS (EXCEPT RENEWAL)

- ☐ Criminal Background Check – Once the online application is completed and submitted you will be emailed an Application Confirmation letter containing instructions to complete the Criminal Background Check (except those applicants seeking relicensure, if the license expired within the last three years.)
- ☐ Good Moral Character Questions – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to either question to show at the current time you have the ability to, and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking a license.
- ☐ Social Security Number – An individual applying for licensure is required to provide his or her social security number at the time of application. If exempt under law from obtaining a SSN or do not have a SSN, the SSN affidavit form will be required to be uploaded at the time the application is submitted.
- ☐ Verification of Licensure – If you hold a current license or ever held a license as a physical therapist assistant, verification of licensure will be required to be submitted directly to this office by the licensing agency of any state of the United States in which you hold or ever held a license. Verification can be emailed to bpldata@michigan.gov or mailed to the Bureau of Professional Licensing, PO Box 30670, Lansing, MI 48909.
- ☐ Human Trafficking – Beginning January 6, 2022, individuals seeking initial licensure must have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meets the standards in Administrative Rule 338.7126 prior to being issued a license. The training must only be completed one time.

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- ☐ Implicit Bias Training – Beginning with renewals submitted June 1, 2022, completion of 1 hour of implicit bias training is required. Please note, this is not a one-time training and must be completed for each renewal cycle prior to the renewal being completed.
- ☐ English Language Proficiency – An individual who graduated from a non-accredited physical therapist educational program and applying for licensure must demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language. This can be established if either the applicant's required health professional educational program was taught in English, a transcript establishes the applicant earned not less than 60 college level credits from an English-speaking graduate or undergraduate school, or that the applicant obtained a passing score on an approved English proficiency exam as established by the department in R [338.7002b\(2\)](#) of the Public Health Code – General Rules.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY EXAM

- ☐ Official transcripts submitted directly to this office confirming graduation from an accredited physical therapist assistant educational program that meets the standards and evaluative criteria for accreditation of physical therapist assistant educational programs set forth by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE).
***Please note that an applicant who graduated on or before January 1, 2008, from an accredited education program that meets the standards under R 338.7141 is presumed to meet this requirement.**
- ☐ Verification of a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for physical therapist assistants. Passing scores must be submitted directly to the office from the testing agency. Applicants can contact the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) at www.fsbpt.org, phone (703) 739-9420, or by email at scoretransfer@fsbpt.org to arrange for passing scores to be sent to this office.
- ☐ Verification of a passing score of 75% on the Michigan Physical Therapist Assistant Jurisprudence Exam. The exams cover the Administrative Rules of the Michigan Board of Physical Therapy and Article 15, parts 161 and 178 of the Michigan Public Health Code. You must schedule your exam through PSI, Inc. by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at (800) 733-9267.
- ☐ Verification/certification of license to be submitted directly to this office by the licensing agency of any jurisdiction recognized by FSBPT in which you hold a current license or registration or ever held a license or registration as a physical therapist assistant.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

Applicants who were first licensed in another jurisdiction recognized by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) and engaged in the practice of physical therapy for less than 5 years immediately preceding the date of their application:

- ☐ Official transcripts submitted directly to this office confirming graduation from an accredited physical therapist educational program that meets the standards and evaluative criteria for accreditation of physical therapist educational programs set forth by the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), or from a program that has been determined to be substantially equivalent by satisfying the verification process under R 338.7147a.

***Please note that an applicant who graduated on or before January 1, 2008, from an accredited education program that meets the standards under R 338.7147 is presumed to meet this requirement.**

- ☐ Verification of a passing score of 75% or higher on the Michigan Physical Therapist Assistant Jurisprudence Exam. The exams cover the Administrative Rules of the Michigan Board of Physical Therapy and Article 15, parts 161 and 178 of the Michigan Public Health Code. You must schedule your exam through PSI, Inc. by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at (800) 733-9267.
- ☐ Verification of a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for physical therapist assistants. Passing scores must be submitted directly to the office from the testing agency. Applicants can contact the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) at www.fsbpt.org, phone (703) 739-9420, or by email at scoretransfer@fsbpt.org to arrange for passing scores to be sent to this office.
- ☐ Verification/certification of license to be submitted directly to this office by the licensing agency of any jurisdiction recognized by FSBPT in which you hold a current license or registration or ever held a license or registration as a physical therapist assistant.

Applicants who were first licensed in another jurisdiction recognized by the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) and engaged in the practice of physical therapy for 5 years or more immediately preceding the date of their application:

- ☐ Verification of a passing score of 75% or higher on the Michigan Physical Therapist Assistant Jurisprudence Exam. The exams cover the Administrative Rules of the Michigan Board of Physical Therapy and Article 15, parts 161 and 178 of the Michigan Public Health Code. You must schedule your exam through PSI, Inc. by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at (800) 733-9267.
- ☐ Verification of a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for physical therapist assistants. Passing scores must be submitted directly to the office from the testing agency. Applicants can contact the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) at www.fsbpt.org, phone (703) 739-9420, or by email at scoretransfer@fsbpt.org to arrange for passing scores to be sent to this office.
- ☐ Verification/certification of license to be submitted directly to this office by the licensing agency of any jurisdiction recognized by FSBPT in which you hold a current license or registration or ever held a license or registration as a physical therapist.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE APPLYING FOR RELICENSURE

- ☐ Online application can be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus, select **MiPlus Login**, select **“Modification”** next to your license number.
- ☐ **Applicants for relicensure whose license has been lapsed for less than 3 years at the time of application must submit the following:**
 - ☐ Verification of a passing score of 75% or higher on the Michigan Physical Therapist Assistants Jurisprudence Exam. The exams cover the Administrative Rules of the Michigan Board of Physical Therapy and Article 15, parts 161 and 178 of the Michigan Public Health Code. You must schedule your exam through PSI, Inc. by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at (800) 733-9267.
 - ☐ Verification/certification of license to be submitted directly to this office by the licensing agency of any jurisdiction recognized by FSBPT in which you hold a current license or registration or ever held a license or registration as a physical therapist.
 - ☐ Comply with either of the following:
 - ☐ Verification of completing not less than 24 professional development requirement (PDR) credits Consistent with R 338.7161 to R 338.7165 during the 2 years immediately preceding the date of the application for relicensure.
- OR
- ☐ Establish you have been employed as a physical therapist assistant in another jurisdiction Recognized by FSBPT for a minimum of 500 hours during the 2-year period immediately preceding the date of the application for relicensure.
- ☐ **Applicants for relicensure whose license has been lapsed for 3 years or more at the time of application must submit the following:**
 - ☐ Verification of a passing score of 75% or higher on the Michigan Physical Therapist Assistant Jurisprudence Exam. The exams cover the Administrative Rules of the Michigan Board of Physical Therapy and Article 15, parts 161 and 178 of the Michigan Public Health Code. You must schedule your exam through PSI, Inc. by visiting www.psiexams.com or by calling PSI at (800) 733-9267.
 - ☐ Verification/certification of license to be submitted directly to this office by the licensing agency of any jurisdiction recognized by FSBPT in which you hold a current license or registration or ever held a license or registration as a physical therapist assistant.
 - ☐ Comply with either of the following:
 - ☐ Provide verification of a passing score on the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE) for physical therapists. Passing scores must be submitted directly to the office from the testing agency. Applicants can contact the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) at

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www.fsbpt.org, phone (703) 739-9420, or by email at scoretransfer@fsbpt.org to arrange for passing scores to be sent to this office.

OR

- ☐ Establish you have been employed as a physical therapist assistant in another jurisdiction Recognized by FSBPT for a minimum of 500 hours during the 2-year period immediately preceding the date of the application for relicensure.

RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- ☐ Online Application For a Physical Therapist Assistant Renewal – Must be completed by visiting www.michigan.gov/miplus
- ☐ Physical Therapist Assistant Renewal Application Fee: \$194.70
(Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, or Discover credit or debit card.)
- ☐ Renewal Cycle: 2 years
- ☐ Good Moral Character Questions – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to either question to show at the current time you have the ability to, and are likely to, serve the public in a fair, honest and open manner, that you are rehabilitated, or that the substance of the former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which you are seeking license renewal.
- ☐ Disciplinary Question – Documentation will be required if you answer “yes” to having sanctions imposed against you by a similar licensure, registration, certification, or disciplinary board of another state or country you have not previously reported to the department.
- ☐ Accept Renewal Attestation - By accepting the renewal attestation you as the licensee are certifying that you have met the following continuing education requirements during the 2-year period immediately preceding the application for renewal and the human trafficking requirement:
 - Human Trafficking – Beginning with the 2017 renewal cycle, and all renewals thereafter, licensees seeking renewal must have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meets the standards in Administrative Rule 338.7126 prior to renewing their license. The training must only be completed one time.
 - 24 PDR credits completed during the 2 years immediately preceding the expiration of the license as outlined in Rule 338.7163 approved by the board as follows:
 - No more than 12 PDR credits can be earned during one 24-hour period.
 - A licensee shall not earn PDR credit for a continuing education program or activity that is identical or substantially identical to a program or activity for which the licensee has already earned credit during the renewal period.
 - A minimum of 1 PDR credit must be earned in pain and symptom management.

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- ☐ Additional information regarding continuing education can be found by accessing the Physical Therapy Administrative Rules at: www.michigan.gov/healthlicense and clicking on the physical therapy link.
- ☐ Licensees seeking renewal must have completed training in identifying victims of human trafficking that meets the standards in Administrative Rule 338.7126 prior to renewing their license. The training must only be completed one time.

HELPFUL RESOURCES AND FORMS

- ☐ By visiting www.michigan.gov/healthlicense and clicking on the physical therapy link you can access the following helpful resources and forms:
- ☐ Resources:
 - ☐ Public Health Code
 - ☐ Administrative Rules for Physical Therapy